

# **Investment Strategies for Information Technology**

Strategic Advisory Council  
Briefing

January 17, 2008

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# Evolving the IT Investment Decision-Making Process

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- Importance
- Where we are today?
- Where do we want to go?
- How are we going to get there?

# Importance of IT Investment

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- IT is a critical component of all services the County provides
- Maintaining and investing in technology
  - Technology is a capital infrastructure program
    - Requires long term programmatic planning and funding strategies
  - Different than other types of infrastructures
    - Quicker replacement cycles
    - Replacement typically driven by technical, not physical, obsolescence and changes in business needs
    - Applies to all services we deliver

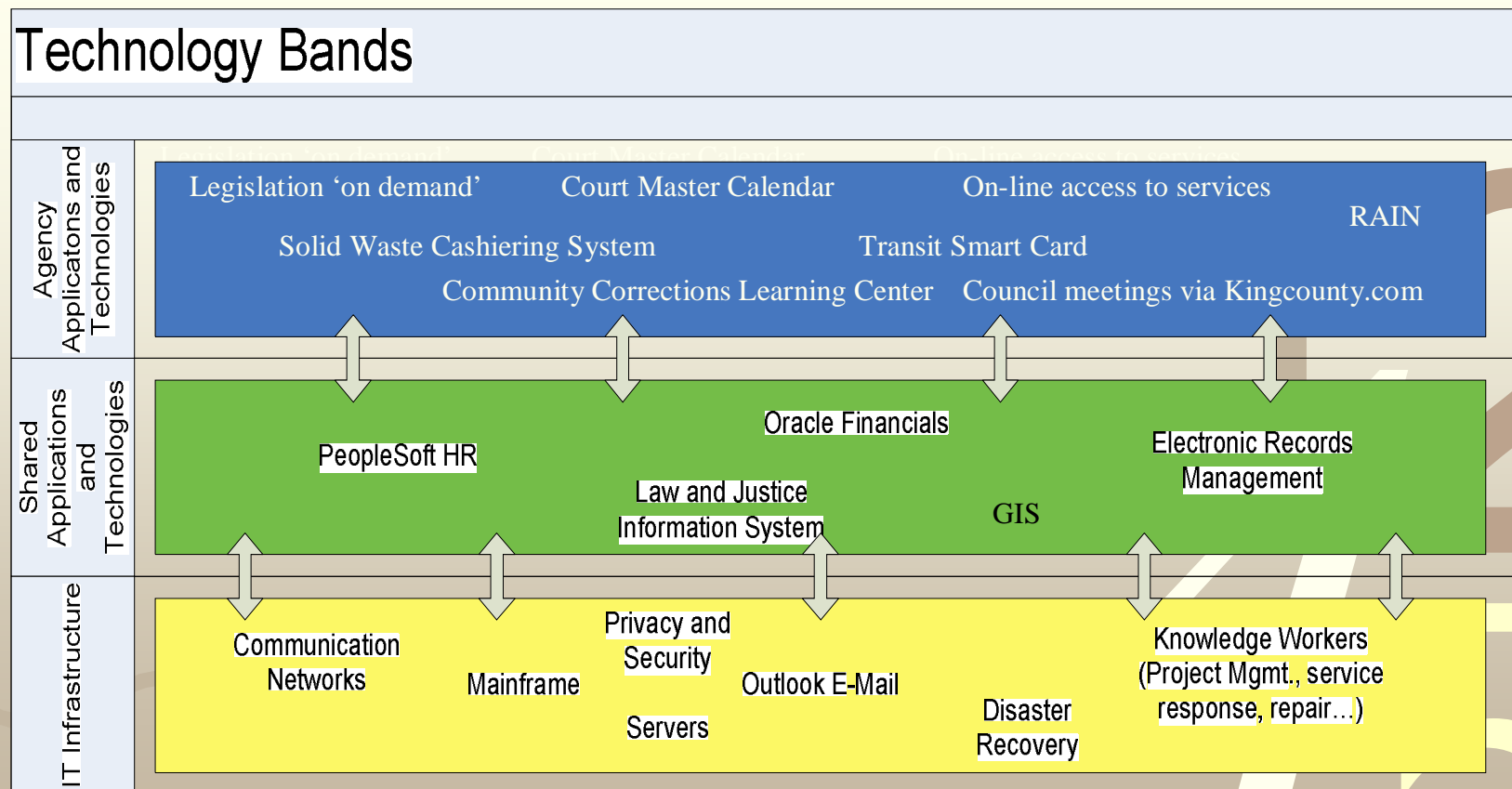
# Challenges

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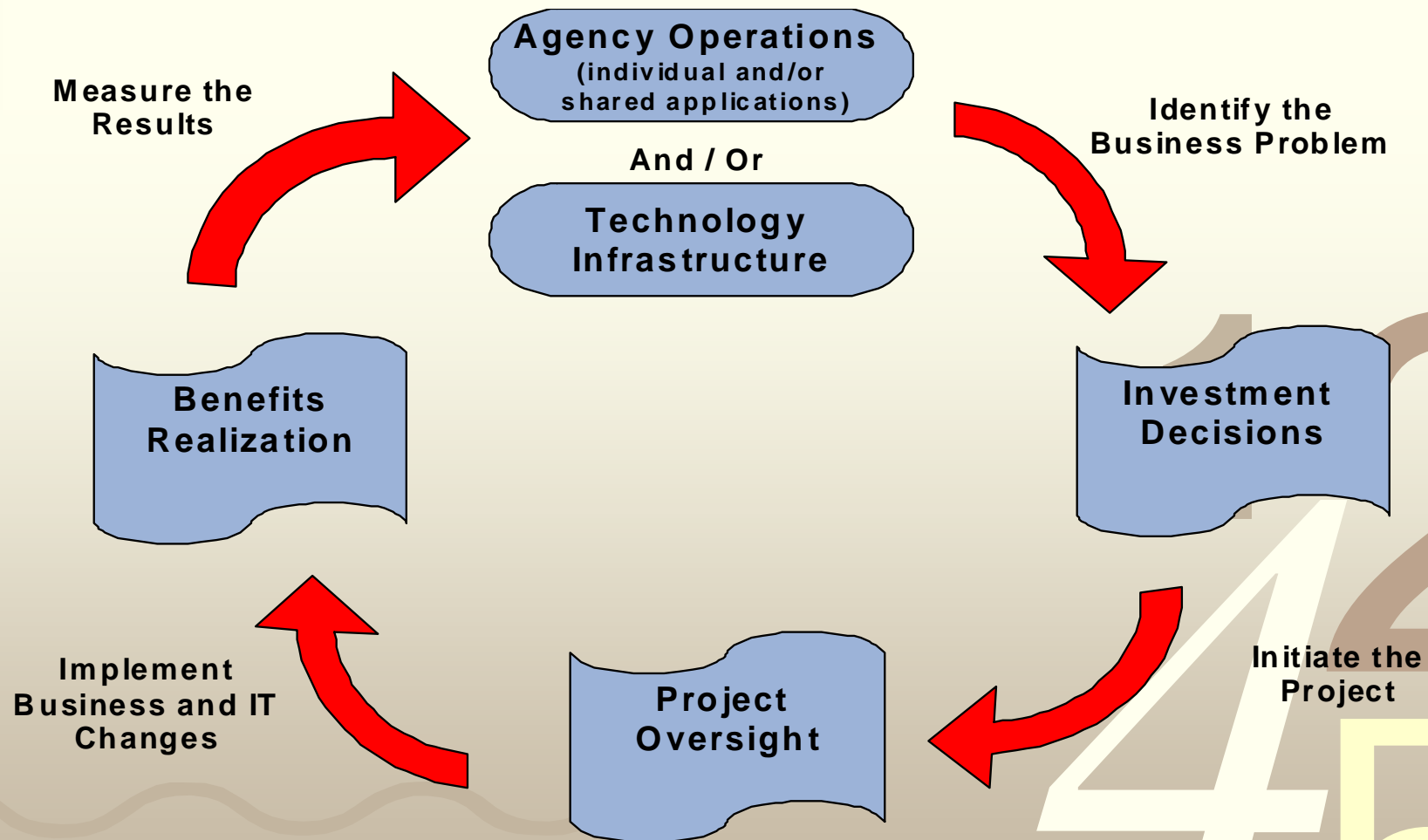
- A good IT investment strategy:
  - Must balance
    - Financial pressures
    - Basic IT infrastructure needs
    - Business needs
  - Assisted by IT Governance – SAC
  - Necessary to support County-wide priorities

# Technology Bands

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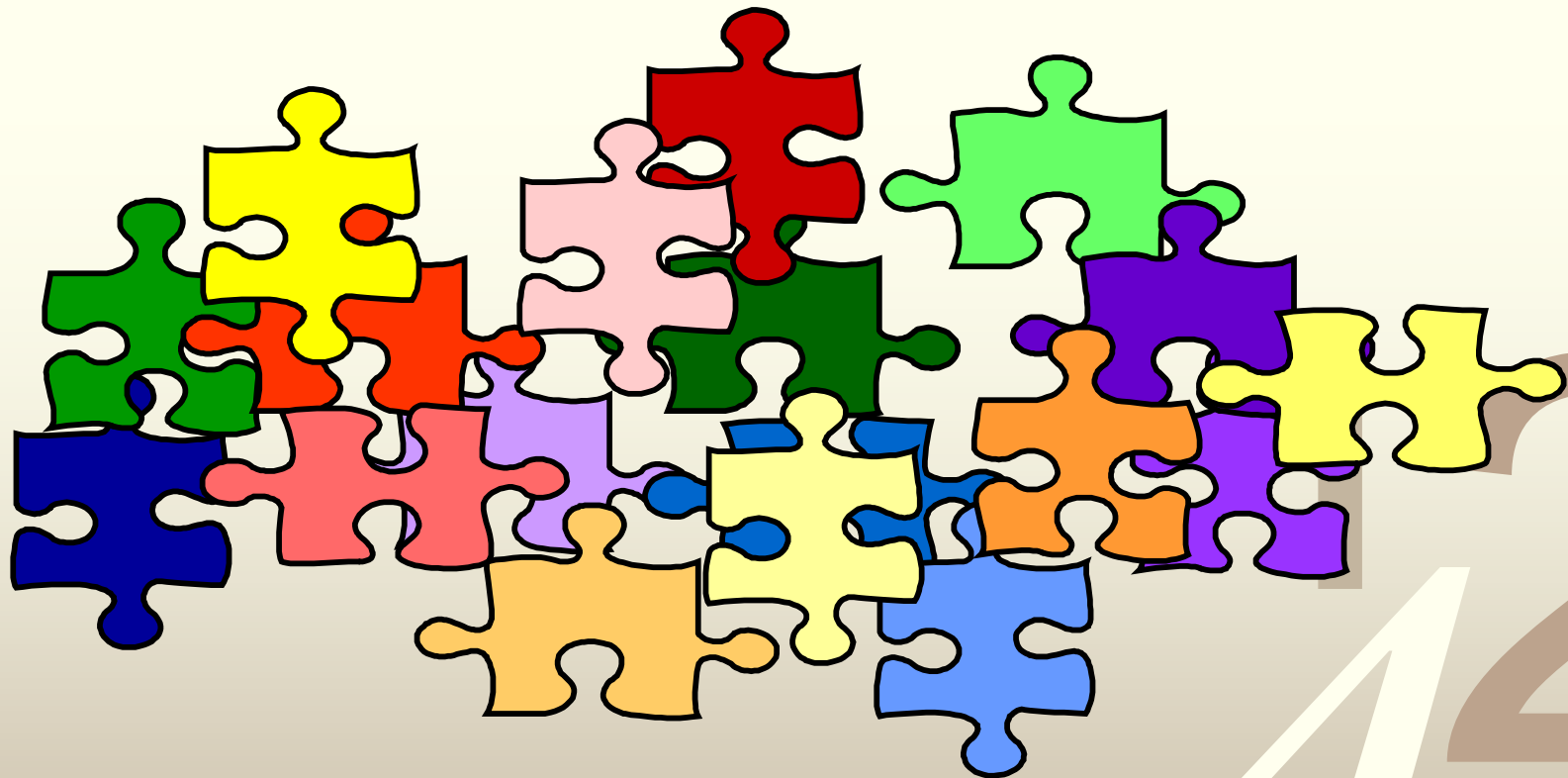


**King County IT Governance partners with project sponsors, project managers, and other stakeholders to minimize risk and maximize business value.**



## **The current IT Strategic Plan and Governance Process provides project by project prioritization**

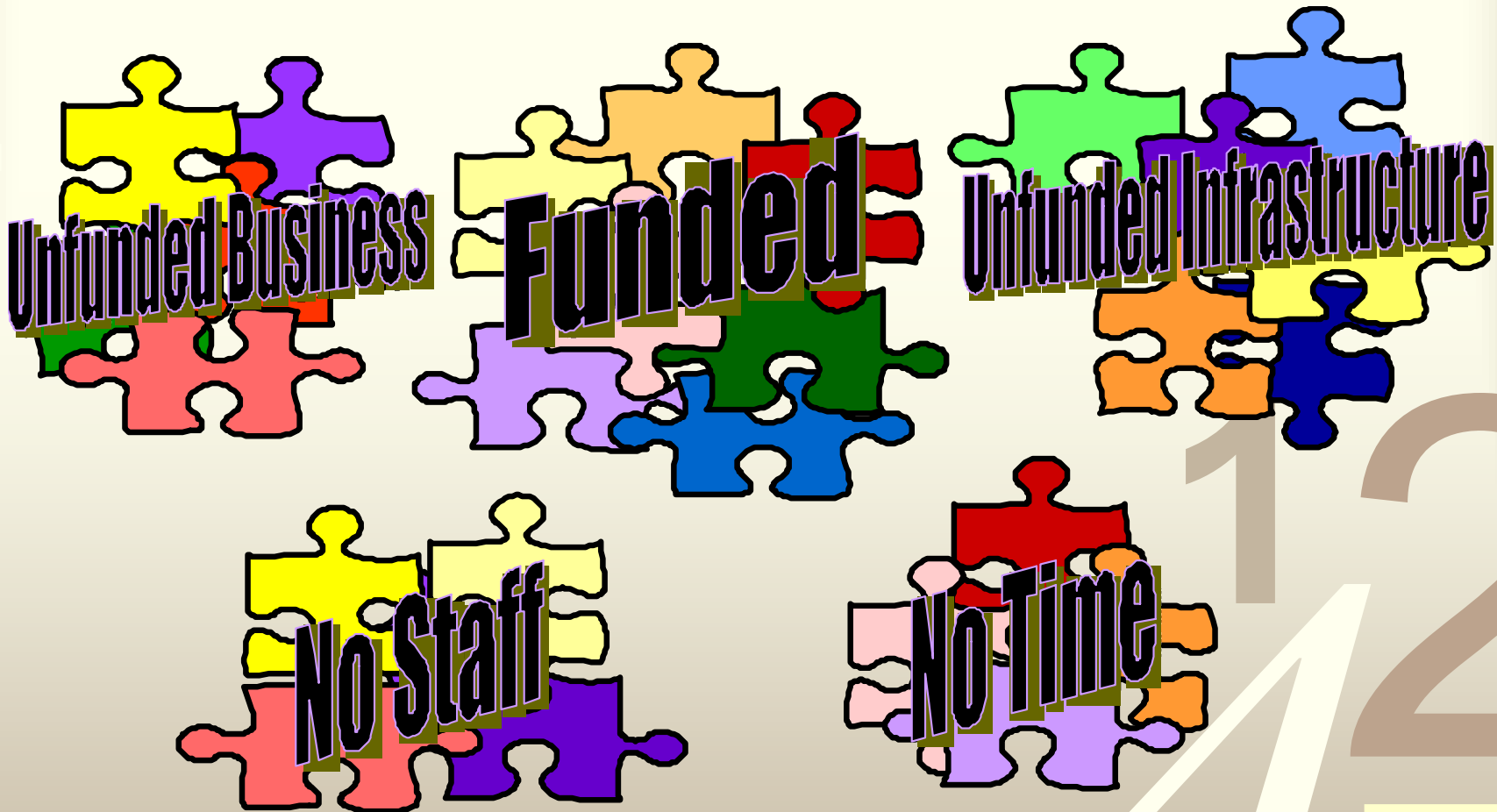
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**.....Resulting in projects that meet individual agency needs, but may not effectively integrate into a County-wide portfolio.**

## Lack of Dollars/People/Time

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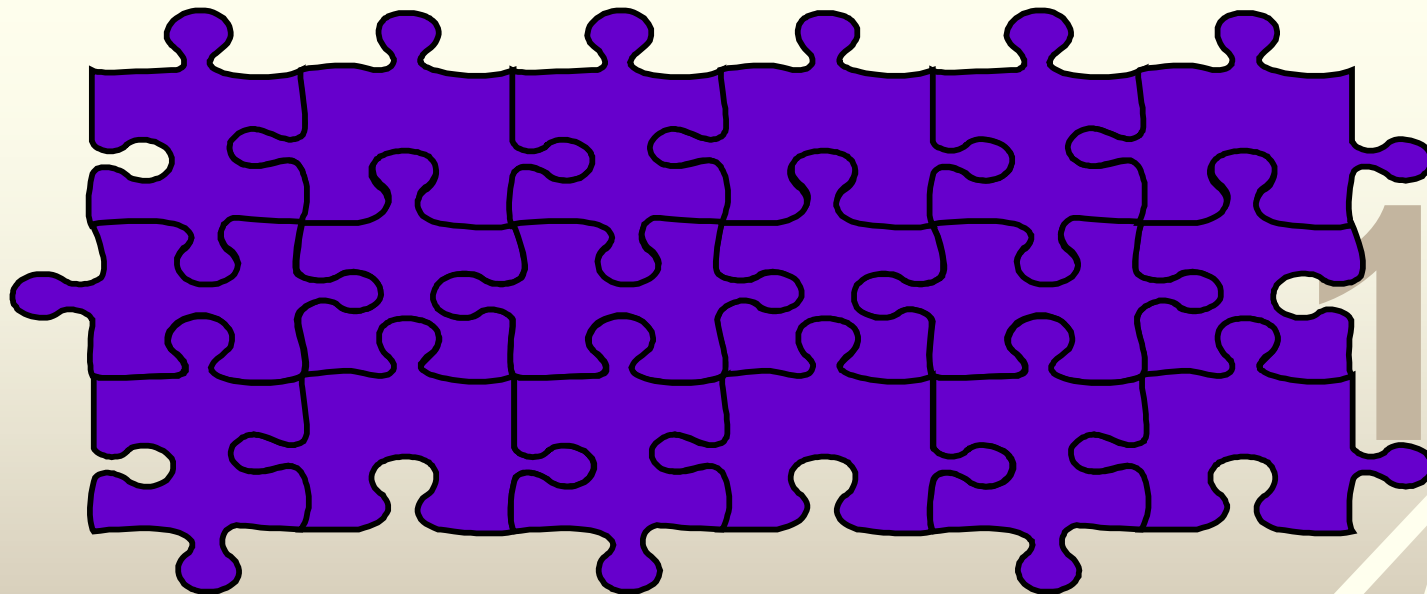


Agency and department projects compete with other projects and operations for funding and resources



# **Moving forward, comprehensive County-wide policy requires an enterprise approach to IT Investment**

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**The result is a unified, comprehensive, and citizen-centric Technology Investment program that will support agency goals and County-Wide initiatives**

# IT Investment Strategy

## Getting It Right

- County-Wide Strategic Business Planning:
  - Begin to build from agencies' business plans
  - Provide guidance and direction for the Strategic Technology Plan
  - Lead to Multi-Year planning process
- Capital Financial Planning:
  - Create a roadmap for how we will finance our technology investment

**Multi-Year, County-Wide Business Plans**

**County-Wide Planning based on Agency Business Plans**

**Agency Business Plans**

And

**Technology Infrastructure Plans**

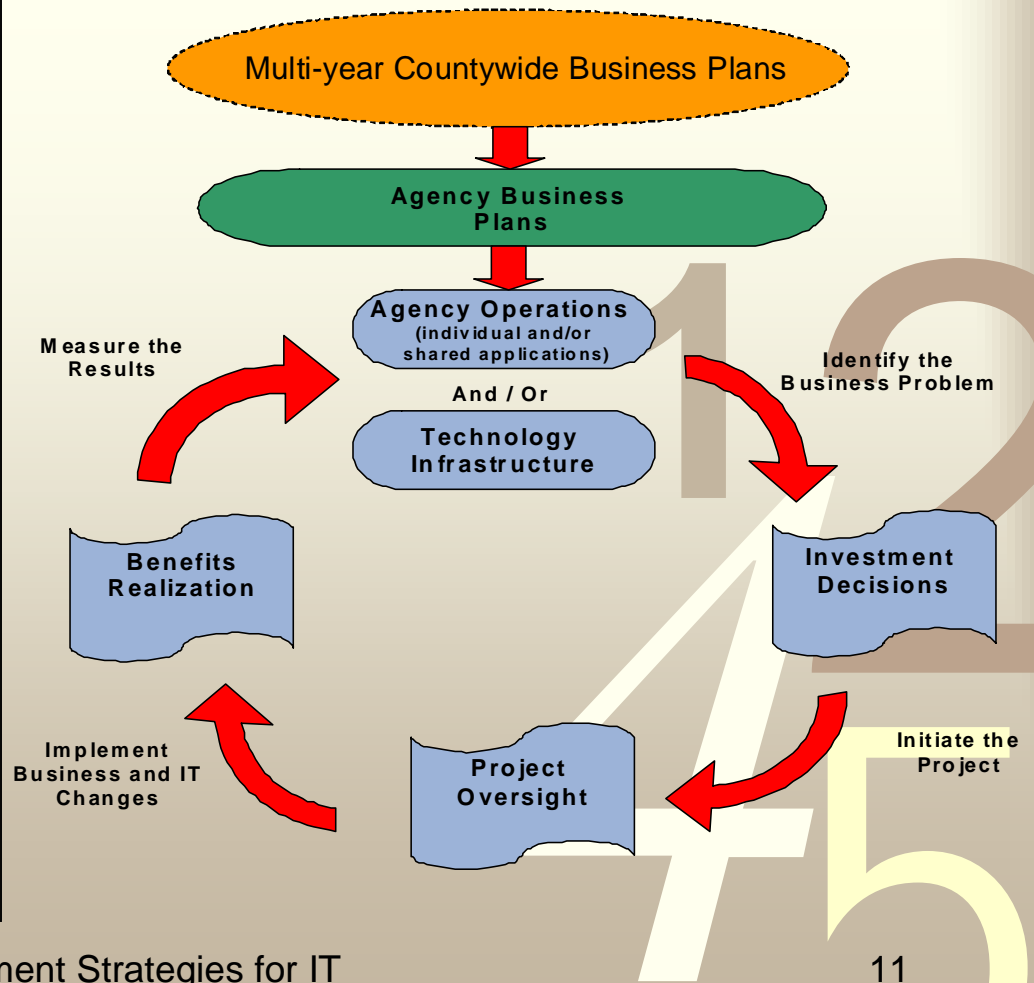
**Planning built on a foundation of Capital Financial Planning**

Advancing the Planning Process

# IT Investment Strategy

## 001 Getting It Right

- Strategic Technology Plan
  - Business Drivers
  - Technology to support goals
  - Potential county-wide synergies
  - Process Changes
- Portfolio Management
  - Enhance ability to balance
    - Between technology bands
    - Across Agencies
  - Clarify visibility into technology investments



## Discussion: Issues/Concerns

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- Multi-year Enterprise-Planning approach to technology
- Means to improve general understanding of IT Investment
  - Communication strategies
  - Management strategies
- Any other suggestions for future